

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A method of formatting an optical recording medium stored therein with location information of a supplementary spare area, the method comprising:

(a) resetting the stored location information of the supplementary spare area in response to a formatting request, the location information of the supplementary spare area indicating a location of the supplementary spare area on the optical recording medium and a size of the supplementary spare area; and
(b) formatting the optical recording medium in response to the formatting request.

3. (Three Times Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said resetting step

(a) comprises converting the location information of the supplementary spare area to a predetermined value.

14. (Twice Amended) A method of formatting a recording medium, the recording medium storing therein location information of a supplementary spare area, the method comprising:

receiving an instruction to format the recording medium;

resetting the location information of the supplementary spare area in response to the instruction, the location information of the supplementary spare area indicating a location of the supplementary spare area on the recording medium and a size of the supplementary spare area; and

transferring secondary defect information with a new PDL (primary defect list) to format the recording medium according to the instruction.

20. (Amended) A method of claim 14, wherein the resetting step includes the step of:

converting the location information of the supplementary spare area to a predetermined value.

Please add the following claims:

-- 24. (NEW) A method of claim 1, wherein, in the resetting step (a) the supplementary spare area is assigned a variable size and is located close to a lead-out area of the optical recording medium.

25. (NEW) A method of claim 1, wherein the resetting is performed so as to provide compatibility between a file system and a driver accessing the recording medium upon formatting of the recording medium.

26. (NEW) A method of claim 1, wherein the resetting is performed so as to provide compatibility between different drivers when the different drivers are used to access the recording medium upon formatting of the recording medium.

27. (NEW) A method of claim 14, wherein, in the resetting step, the supplementary spare are is assigned a variable size and is located close to a lead-out area of the recording medium.

28. (NEW) A method of claim 14, wherein the resetting is performed so as to provide compatibility between a file system and a driver accessing the recording medium upon formatting of the recording medium.

29. (NEW) A method of claim 14, wherein the resetting is performed so as to provide compatibility between different drivers when the different drivers are used to access the recording medium upon formatting of the recording medium.--